SANGAMON COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES August 17, 2021 - 12:00 p.m.

Convener: Dan Wright, President

Recorder: Michael Torchia

Committee Members in Attendance:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Organization</u> | <u>Email</u> |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Michael Torchia | Court Services | mike.torchia@co.sangamon.il.us |
| 2. Kent Holsopple | Court Services | Kent.holsopple@co.sangamon.il.us |
| 3. Ava Carpenter-McPike | Court Services | Ava.carpenter- |
| | | mcpike@co.sangamon.il.us |
| 4. Suzann Maxheimer | 7 th Judicial Circuit | Suzann.maxheimer@co.sangamon.il.us |
| 5. Larry Hemingway, Sr. | Springfield Urban League | <u>lhemingway@springfieldul.org</u> |
| 6. Anthony Mayfield | Sheriff's Office | Anthony.Mayfield@co.sangamon.il.us |
| 7. Dan Wright | State's Attorney's Office | Dan.wright@co.sangamon.il.us |
| 8. Karen Tharp | 7 th Judicial Circuit | Karen.tharp@co.sangamon.il.us |
| 9. Sierra Senor-Moore | | Senor429@gmail.com |
| 10. Joshua Stuenkel | Springfield Police Department | Joshua.stuenkel@springfield.il.us |
| 11. DeAnn Richard | Court Services | Deann.richard@co.sangamon.il.us |
| 12. Kendra Hansel | State's Attorney's Office | Kendra.hansel@co.sangamon.il.us |
| 13. Phillip Cavill | Boys & Girls Club | pacavil@bgccil.org |
| 14. Twyla Moore | Springfield Urban League | tmoore@springfieldul.org |
| 15. Scott Joslin | Court Services | Scott.joslin@co.sangamon.il.us |
| 16. Shannon Fehrholz | ROE | sfehrholz@roe51.org |
| 17. Tami Langford | SIU-SOM | Tlangford25@siumed.edu |
| 18. Patrick Moore | LLCC | Patrick.moore@llcc.edu |
| 19. Diamond Dodson | SIU-SOM | Ddodson34@siumed.edu |

Meeting Called to Order

President Dan Wright called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. The meeting was held in the Sangamon County Board Chambers.

Approval of Minutes from June 25, 2020

Motion made by Larry Hemingway, Sr., seconded by Ava Carpenter-McPike. Meeting minutes approved.

Introductions

The attendees introduced themselves.

New Business

National Gang Meeting

Dan Wright talked about online webinar that he attended about gangs. It was a 1.5 hour long webinar that provided information on how to divert individuals away from gang activities.

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The Outlet

Since Michael Phelon was not present for the meeting, Dan Wright (who is on the Board for The Outlet) provided an overview of The Outlet. The Outlet is a non-profit organization that works with young males ages 8-22 to develop the capacity and skill sets to make responsible life decisions, acquire and maintain meaningful spiritual and ethical values, explore their gifts, talents, and recognize their dreams and aspirations. Dan Wright went on to indicate that The Outlet has received additional funding to work with more youths. They are working with Springfield Police Department in regards to working with youths who have been identified to be eligible for the Focus Deterrence Program.

Focus Deterrence

Springfield Police Department is identifying more and more juveniles being involved in shooting related offenses or involved in gang activities. Deputy Chief Stuenkel indicated that they are working with The Outlet.

Old Business

<u>Juvenile Redeploy Grant</u>-Mike Torchia reported that Court Services is currently implementing a \$415,000.00 Juvenile Redeploy planning grant through the Illinois Department of Human Services (DHS). Mike Torchia gave a brief presentation of the Juvenile Redeploy Program.

<u>Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Grant</u>-Mike Torchia gave an update on the PREA grant that Court Services received from the U.S. Department of Justice. The purpose of the grant is to provide technical assistance in order to get the Juvenile Detention Center PREA certified. Court Services went through a planning phase and was given approval to proceed with the implementation phase.

Teen Court-ASA Kendra Hansel gave an overview of the North County Teen Court which consists of Williamsville, Riverton, Spaulding, Rochester, and Grandview. Teen Court is designed to develop respect for authority and the community and to stop potential delinquent behavior in teens. The program capitalizes on positive peer influence. Teen Court represents a positive alternative to the juvenile justice system and holds juvenile offenders accountable for a sentence imposed by a jury of their peers. By offering this alternative system, we allow youth who have made poor decisions an opportunity to recognize their mistakes and learn valuable lessons. Prior to the COIVID-19 pandemic, there was discussion on implementing Teen Court with Springfield School District #186. Sierra Senor-Moore reported that she has been in contact with Southeast High School (SEHS) and we are looking at starting a pilot program at SEHS. Follow up discussions with representatives from #186 and SEHS need to be conducted with possible implementation in Fall 2021.

Other Business

<u>National Museum of Tolerance</u>-Dan Wright and Ava Carpenter-McPike advised that the National Museum of Tolerance is at the Illinois State Fair this year and encouraged everyone to visit it. The Museum of Tolerance (MOT) is a human rights laboratory and educational center dedicated to challenging visitors to understand the Holocaust in both historic and contemporary contexts and confront all forms of prejudice and discrimination in our world today. Also, MOT can assist with the setting up of Teen Court.

<u>Public Interest</u> Law-Dan Wright talked about a new community service initiative that he started that is aimed at steering local young people towards careers in public interest law. This initiative will encourage and facilitate the pursuit of careers in public interest law by Sangamon County high school and college students in

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an effort to promote unity, diversity and community engagement. Also, this initiative plans to accomplish the objectives through collaborative educational opportunities, networking and mentorship.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Next JJC Meeting: October 19, 2021 at 12:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Mike Torchia made the motion and it was seconded by Dan Wright. Meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m.